

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-05 NSC-05 /050 W  
-----086045 271056Z /15

R 271020Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9538  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS DUBLIN 2055

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, EI  
SUBJECT: IRISH SENATE ELECTION

REF: DUBLIN 2019

1. USUALLY CAUTIOUS PRIME MINISTER JACK LYNCH PROVIDED A FEW SURPRISES IN THE AUGUST 25 ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS ELEVEN NOMINEES FOR THE SENATE. GIVEN LAST WEEK'S CLOSE ELECTION RESULTS (SEE REFTEL) LYNCH WAS EXPECTED BY MANY TO RESTRICT HIS CHOICES TO FIANNA FAIL PARTY STALWARTS, WHICH WOULD HAVE GUARANTEED A ONE VOTE MAJORITY IN THE UPPER HOUSE (ASSUMING SELECTION OF A NON-VOTING FIANNA FAIL CHAIRMAN). INSTEAD, THE ELEVEN INCLUDE FOUR WHO ARE NOT OFFICIALLY MEMBERS OF THE PARTY. THREE ARE REGARDED AS FIANNA FAIL SUPPORTERS (FORMER LORD MAYOR OF CORK VALENTINE JAGO, LADY VALERIE GOULDING AND BUSINESSMAN GORDON LAMBERT), AND THE FOURTH IS HIGHLY RESPECTED FORMER CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY T. K. WHITAKER.

2. MEDIA HAS GENERALLY PRAISED THE LYNCH NOMINATIONS,  
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AND LAUDED HIS ESCHEWING OF NARROW PARTY POLITICS IN SELECTION PROCESS. IN FACT, GIVEN THE PRESENCE IN NEW SENATE OF OUR ELECTED INDEPENDENTS AND POLITICAL INCLINATION IF NOT PARTY MEMBERSHIP OF THREE OF HIS QUOTE INDEPENDENT UNQUOTE NOMINEES, LYNCH DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE TAKING SERIOUS RISK OF POLITICAL EMBARRASSMENT. INCLUSION OF THREE WOMEN AND FOUR PROTESTANTS (ONE OF

THEM EC PARLIAMENT VICE-CHAIRMAN MICHAEL YEATS) AMONG  
THOSE NAMED HAS ALSO DRAWN FAVORABLE COMMENT.SHANNON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, ELECTIONS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 27-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 DUBLIN 2019  
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**SAS ID:** 1460400  
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**TAGS:** PINT, EI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009